



# NEWS RELEASE

## OFFICE OF THE STATE'S ATTORNEY FOR HOWARD COUNTY

**For Immediate Release:**

Contact: T. Wayne Kirwan, 410-313-2108  
[wkirwan@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:wkirwan@howardcountymd.gov)

July 11, 2017

### **Elkridge Man Pleads Guilty to Assault and Setting Fire to Grandparents' Home**

A 30-year-old Elkridge man who threatened to kill his grandparents and set their home on fire last February has pleaded guilty to arson and assault charges in Ellicott City this morning. Aaron Thomas Logerquist, of the 5900 block of Setter Drive, pleaded guilty before Howard County Circuit Court Judge Richard S. Bernhardt.

Police and firefighters were dispatched to the Elkridge home just after 9:30 a.m. on February 10, 2017 after Logerquist's 74-year-old grandmother called 911 dispatchers. Deputy State's Attorney Mary V. Murphy told the court that Logerquist lived with his grandparents and had a history of drug abuse. She stated that when they tried to awaken their grandson for a methadone clinic appointment he became irate and brandished a pistol and knife and threatened to kill them. The gun turned out to be a pellet gun but Logerquist also grabbed a propane torch and used fireworks mortars to ignite two fires in the house, including one in his grandparent's bed. Murphy told the court that Logerquist expressed a desire to be shot by the police. "Why don't you shoot me? Everyone would be better off," she quoted Logerquist telling police when he ran from the house and was confronted.

Judge Bernhardt set a sentencing hearing on August 17. Logerquist continues to be held without bond at the Howard County Detention Center. Murphy indicated that she will seek a period of 20 years of active incarceration for the arson and assault charges.

# # #